

the state an opportunity to examine the details of a system of taxation, which was to operate for ten years to come—Why not give time to correct some errors which had been discovered? Up to these enquiries, and to many others which were made, no satisfactory answer was given; and after many hours spent in a very spirited debate, the vote to reconsider passed. On the 15th, the same report was taken up, debated in the Senate, and committed. The chairman of the committee requested the attendance of such members as were acquainted with the subject, that the defects and errors might be pointed out and amended; several members did attend for this purpose. The committee were informed that there were many errors in casting the report, as it then stood; and a very material and important mistake had been made in the dooming of the town of Boston, amounting to 12 millions of dollars; but the committee soon decided they would make no alteration in the county aggregates—after which it was entirely unnecessary to say anything on the subject of the 12 millions of taxable property, which it was confidently believed ought to be just to the other sections of the state, to have been added to the town of Boston. The committee reported some unimportant amendments, relating to errors in casting, and these with the original report was accepted. The report was then sent to the house of representatives, when upon the very strong representation made, of the great impropriety of hurrying unnecessarily such a subject, very reluctantly postponed to the 28th of January, and committed to a committee consisting of one member from each county, with a view that any member of the Legislature might be heard before them if he had any complaint to make, as to the apportionment on his town. The members of the Legislature from the different counties, held separate meetings and agreed on a number of alterations and corrections, which it was intended should be made; but before this could be effected, the order of the day on the valuation report was loudly called for. The speaker informed the house that the committee had not yet reported; upon which a vote passed to order the committee into the house; a messenger was sent to the committee to this effect—but as the committee were assiduously engaged in effecting the alterations which had been agreed on by the representation from the several counties, they did not immediately come in. A second message from the speaker brought them into the house. The chairman, Mr. Walter, of Boston, was called on to make a report; he stated that it would require about two hours to finish the business with which they had been intrusted; that they had already passed on sixteen counties, and that there remained no doubt but that in two hours, the committee would accomplish the rest satisfactorily. Notwithstanding it was voted to take the papers from the committee, and the committee of the house were prevented from making any report. It was voted to accept the report as it came from the Senate. All opportunity was precluded of correcting errors and inequalities—and a report, to say the least of it, containing many imperfections and errors of which all seemed to be convinced, was made the basis of senatorial apportionment and taxation for ten years to come.

Outrageous conduct towards Maine; PARTICULARLY LINCOLN COUNTY.

THE manner in which the people of the District of Maine have been lately taxed is not yet thoroughly understood, though information on this interesting subject is rapidly coming before us. The authors of the extraordinary system of valuation lately adopted in our Legislature, will probably use all their exertions to draw the veil of secrecy over that execrable transaction. They will endeavour to prevent the good citizens of Maine from obtaining a correct knowledge of the additional taxes that have been heaped upon them, in order to prop up the democratic cause and make room for two or three office seekers, who wish to be thought great men and make their way into the Senate.

I shall not attempt to develop the whole plan of the late valuation, but confine myself to one of its items, and that more especially as it effects the County of Lincoln—I allude to the dooming in polls. It was determined that Maine should send three additional senators. The valuation committee after laying an enormous burden in taxes on the property of Maine, doomed the whole Commonwealth in about 3000 polls, and the District of Maine, is to receive one half of this number—out of these, by another extraordinary arrangement the County of Lincoln was doomed 572 polls, exclusive of the plantations and unincorporated places. Those who have not considered the subject will be astonished at the enormous tax produced by this dooming in polls. The errors in this valuation were so many, and so gross—Maine was taxed so high, and the rich County of Suffolk so low—that the federalists, in order to correct these evils, and remove the severe pressure from the District of Maine, by great exertions obtained a vote in the House of Representatives to commit the report of the committee of valuation to a select committee of the House, consisting of one member from each county, who were directed by the House to call together all the members of their several counties in sub committees, in order to confer on the subject matter before them and correct errors. This committee were allowed only three days for this laborious investigation. They however attended to their duty with close application and great assiduity, and discovered many errors—but on the last

day of their sitting, when they would have made their report in one hour, they were called into the House, and a motion made to discharge them—this motion the federalists strenuously opposed—but it was carried by the usual majority—the labours of this committee lost—and this hateful system of taxation fixed upon us for ten years.

As I only take one item of this account—that of the polls—I will now show the melancholly situation of the County of Lincoln. The following is a list of towns in this county thus sentenced, for I sicken at the word doomed.

doomed	doomed
Georgetown, 6	Dresden, 9
Newcastle, 59	Alna, 3
Wiscasset, 35	Lewiston, 20
Bowdoinham, 28	Litchfield, 30
Topsham, 30	Lisbon, 18
Boothbay, 23	St. George, 60
Bristol, 31	Hope, 5
Waldoboro, 10	Palermo, 7
Edgecumbe, 25	Jefferson, 20
Warren, 5	Friendship, 4
Thomaston, 49	Whitefield, 3
Bath, 4	Wales, 16
Union, 30	Bowdoin, 40
Nobleboro, 12	Camden, 8

In order to give some idea of the effect of this dooming, permit me to state a few principles, and then apply them.

Each poll is valued at \$ 366.66—all property is valued at 6 per cent, excepting wild lands which are put at 2 per cent—Now apply this dooming and see what is coming upon us.

1500 polls doomed in Maine is equal to \$ 550,000 in wild land 1,650,000 572 polls doomed on the County of Lincoln 209,733 and in wild land to 622,200 50 polls doomed on the town of Newcastle is equal to 18,333 and in wild land to 55,000 From the above statement, a calculation can easily be made for any particular town. Look fellow-citizens—consider—and determine, whether you will give your votes to the authors of this arbitrary and tyrannical conduct. When men are thrusting their hands into your pockets by stealth, will you any longer trust them?

LINCOLN.

American Republican Ticket.

CALEB STRONG,
FOR GOVERNOR.

WILLIAM PHILLIPS,
FOR LIEUT. GOVERNOR.

Senators.

For Cumberland and Oxford,

MATTHEW COBB,
LOTHROP LEWIS, and
DANIEL STOWEL.

Lincoln, Hancock and Washington,
EDMUND BRIDGE,
THEODORE LINCOLN,
WILLIAM CROSBY.

Kennebeck District,

THOMAS RICE,
PETER GRANT.

Convention at Gray.

On Friday last, a number of gentlemen, delegated by the federal citizens of most of the towns in the counties of Cumberland and Oxford, convened at Gray, and after taking into consideration the alarming situation of the country and the distresses already brought upon it by the weak and corrupt councils of those who, forsaking the principles of Washington, have for a number of years past, managed the great concerns of the nation—as well as the partial, unjust, and immoral, not to say tyrannical conduct of the Governor, Council, and Legislature of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, during the year past, and the importance of a change in our chief rulers—unanimously agreed to use all lawful and honorable means to secure the election of

Caleb Strong, for Governor,
William Phillips, for Lt. Gov.

Matthew Cobb,
Lothrop Lewis, and
Daniel Stowel,

as Senators for the District of Cumberland and Oxford.

SAM'L FREEMAN, Chairman.
SIMON GREENLEAF, Sec'y.

Convention at Nobleborough.

The County of Lincoln, in common with the neighboring Counties in Maine, having by the valuation law passed at the late session of the General Court, in a manner arbitrary and precipitate and to an amount burdensome and alarming, been doomed to taxes taken off from the large western towns, which it is intended shall be levied for ten years; and thereupon a new apportionment of Senators having been prematurely made, against the express letter of the constitution and all

former usage; a number of citizens, according to previous notice assembled at Mr. N. Rryant's in Nobleborough, on the 5th day of March 1812, to consult upon the common good, and particularly concerning the next Senatorial election; when, gentlemen from 13 towns being present, it was unanimously resolved—

That at the latter period of our union with Great Britain it was the policy of Hutchinson and Coge and their adherents to establish a party government, arrogating to one political sect the offices, honours, salaries, fees and power of the state, to the oppression of all others; a policy which, having injustice and usurpation for its objects, had fraud, falsehood and corruption for its measures:

That party policy thus arrogating power is tyranny; whatever names it may treacherously assume, whether it chooses to be called loyalty or republicanism, it is still tyranny; it is no less dangerous to those who aid it than to those who oppose it; for when it is trampled down its opposers it is sure to crush those who have aided its usurpations:

That opposition to this policy produced the American revolution; and our most excellent constitution was established on the principles that "all men are born free and equal," that "government is instituted for the common good, for the protection, safety, prosperity and happiness of the people, not for the profit, honor or private interest of any one man, family, or class of men," principles derived from the laws of God, and not repealable by his creatures:

That we revere as sacred the principles of this constitution and the rights and liberties which it asserts; rights and liberties sealed with the blood of our fathers, brethren and friends, and given to us as the most precious of earthly blessings: these are our federal principles, our only bulwark against the intolerance, wickedness and vengeance of despotism.

That at the present time, when the same policy to establish a party government arrogating to one political sect the offices, honours, salaries, fees and power of the state, to the oppression of all others, is pursued with greediness insatiable, rancour unconcealed, and violence unrestrained; when party spirit among ourselves imitating the tyranny which rules the convulsed and bleeding nations of the other continent, has made an impression astonishing not only to us but to its authors; when they in the confidence of triumph became so bold in persecution that many good citizens hitherto deceived and betrayed into their measures tremble for our common liberties; it is an imperative duty to use every exertion for placing in office men of truth, who love our state and federal constitutions and have been uniform in supporting them; who are advocates of equal rights; who instead of denouncing others for exercising freedom of opinion, consider them for this very cause as the friends of their country; in short, men who will seek "the common good, not the interest of any one man or class of men."

That the nomination of
CALEB STRONG
as Governor, and

WILLIAM PHILIPS
as Lieutenant Governor of this Commonwealth for the coming year, has our hearty concurrence:

That we will support, and recommend to the support of our fellow citizens, as Senators for this District in the next General Court,

Edmund Bridge, Esq.
Hon. Theodore Lincoln,
Hon. William Crosby:

and it gives us pleasure to learn that in our selection of these gentlemen we agree in sentiment with our brethren of the eastern Counties of the district.

JAMES ROGERS, Chairman.
J. STEBBINS, Secretary.

LINCOLN SENATORS.

Mr Bridge, was an active revolutionary character in '75. He was appointed Sheriff of Lincoln County in 1781, by Gov. Hancock; and continued in that office till last October, when he was removed by Mr Gerry because he was a federal republican, and to make way for Orchard Cook. He is well acquainted with the interests of the District, he is a patriot without ambition; and in his moral conduct exemplary and unimpeachable.

Mr. Lincoln, (a Son of the late Gen. Lincoln) has once received your suffrages for the Senate, and is too well known thro' the District to need any commendation. The slanderous breath of party cannot advance a charge against him. He has information, talents and patriotism, which makes him worthy of legislative trust

among a free people.

Mr Crosby is a distinguished character in the District: A man learned in the law and of incorruptible integrity. The democrats have declared their esteem for him, by making him Chief Justice of the court for the eastern circuit.

These are characters, fellow citizens, in whom you may confide. These are men, to whom you may entrust the destinies of the Commonwealth with perfect security. They will not flatter, they will not deceive you. They will aim solely at your individual welfare, and prosperity of the Commonwealth.

The comparison may be thought unnecessary; but we think it due to the people of the District, to make some remarks respecting the democratic candidates. They were nominated we understand, at a meeting of a few men, from the eastern counties, and were themselves of the number. We doubt, whether they are much known in the District, and whether they are agreeable to the most of their own party. One of the democratic gentlemen who made the nomination was inquiring in Boston a few days ago, who was Mr. Webber, a man on the ticket they agreed to support. We have also made inquiry, and find that all known of Mr. Webber is, that he was chosen treasurer of the county of Hancock a few years ago by the democratic party; and soon after, he went into Court and resigned the office, declaring that he was unable to discharge its duties; upon which the Court appointed Major Floyd, who had been left out of that office by party efforts.

Of Erasmus Foote, Esq. one of the democratic candidates, we shall say but little—and that is, that he was once a federalist, until within about two years, when he went over to the democratic party, because it was likely to have power and office to bestow, to gratify his ambition.

Benjamin Porter, Esq. the other democratic candidate, you will recollect, is also one of those who deserted federal principles not long ago, and without any cause or reason assigned, except to comply with the wishes of Mr. King; who is so precisely that sort of man, that he will quarrel with every one, who does not submit to his controul.

Our Pretended Friends.

M. SHURLEY,
THOUGH I am a mechanic I think I am as capable of judging what policy promotes or destroys the interests of mechanics, and when the professions of those who solicit my vote, agrees with their practice or conduct in office, as any other man. I see by the democratic papers that the leaders of democracy calculate upon our support—Do they expect we shall vote for them because they have laid Embargoes and Non Importation laws, which have deprived us of more than one half of our business? If these pretended friends to us can be Collectors, Surveyors, Sheriffs, Judges, Senators and Colonels in Madison's army, mechanics may go whistle for a living for aught they care. For one I shall not vote (tho I have heretofore done it) for the democratic ticket,—which I understand is to be composed of Gerry, King and Poor Fugle Rifley. I find these men are the advocates of WAR and TAXES.—Rifley, I am told, is a newly appointed COLONEL in the new army of 25,000 men.

I will give my brother mechanics a specimen of democratic friendship:—By the new mode of taxation, the polls are to pay a much greater proportion of the taxes, than at any former period; heretofore, the polls have paid \$ 250 on a 1000, but now they are to pay 337 dollars on a 1000, which will operate exceeding hard on poor men and mechanics, who have a number of sons and apprentices under age, and will greatly ease the men of property. To remedy this in some measure, and with a hope to relieve poor men and mechanics, I am informed that the Hon. Ammi R. Mitchell, of Northyarmouth, at the last session of the General Court, made a motion, that polls above sixty-five years of age and all minors under twenty one years, should be exempted from all poll taxes, excepting those on highways, but they could not succeed; the proposition being voted down by the democrats, who said that these poor men and mechanics could pay their taxes easier than others.—By the conduct of your rulers ye shall know them.

A MECHANICK

FREEDOM OF ELECTION!!!
A certain candidate for the Senate, who is styled a patriot of tried

integrity, in the last Argus, by the name of Jonathan Page, has in circulation a paper, which he has presented to a number of democrats for them to sign, wherein they pledge themselves to vote for him and other democratic candidates on the first Monday in April. This is a plan, that the freedom of election and the rights of the people may be preferred! O shame where is thy blush?

VERITAS.

By the Posts.

French Decrees Rescinded!

The following article is from the last New-York Gazette, and comes authenticated by

59 WITNESSES.—

Who, after reading this Document, can doubt, for a moment

That the Decrees are Repealed!

"Captain Hitchcock, of the brig Thames, arrived at this port (NY) yesterday. In lat 25, lon 56, fell in with 2 French frigates and a corvette, was boarded and detained till the next morning, when the Frenchmen put on board the Thames, the crews (29 in number) of the elegant ship Asia, Hewitt, from Philadelphia, for Lisbon, and the brig Gershom, Smith, of Duxbury, from Boston, for Oporto, both loaded with flour and corn, and both of which the Frenchmen BURNT. The names of the frigates were, the Herald, and the Andromache, and corvette Mameluke, and said they sailed from Nantz on the 8th of January last. The Asia was taken on the 17th and the Gershom the 23d of Jan. and they informed Captain Hitchcock, that they had BURNT several other American vessels, one of which was no doubt the ship Telegraph, of New-York. The only supplies allowed for the above 39 seamen, was a puncheon of water, and 150 wt. of bread, which obliged Capt. T. to put into St. Barts, to prevent starvation. This squadron had boarded the brig John from Boston, for Tonningen and permitted her to proceed."

The Blessings of Barlow's Mission.

A French squadron which sailed from France in January, is cruising in the track of our ships to Spain and Portugal—they take possession of and destroy all they find carrying supplies to those places. Thus by the new treaty which Barlow is supposed to have made with Bonaparte, it appears that even our own produce is to be destroyed, without trial, on the high seas, if found on the way to the poor Spaniards and Portuguese, who are considered as Rebels to the Great Emperor.

PHENOMENA.

Since Joel Barlow set sail for France the sun was totally eclipse;—a comet has been blazing in the heavens, "from its horrid hair shaking pestilence and war";—the moon has been totally eclipsed;—the capital of Virginia has been visited by a most awful conflagration;—the American continent has been convulsed to its centre, and in the south, earthquakes have terminated in a horrible volcano, which is said to have poured forth rivers of lava, devouring every thing in its course. Should these phenomena portend new and bloody wars in Europe "reaching our peaceful shores" but to end in the overthrow of the most powerful and bloody tyrant the world ever saw, then was he a scourge sent by providence, and like a scourge will he have passed away.

Balt. Fed. Rep.

Friday the 27th day of March inst. is set apart by his Excellency ROGER GUTSWOLD, Esq. as a day of Public Humiliation, Fasting and Prayer in Connecticut.

Thursday the 9th April next, will be observed throughout this Commonwealth as a day of FASTING and PRAYER.

Thursday the 9th of April next, is appointed by the Governor of New-Hampshire to be observed as a day of Fasting Humiliation and Prayer throughout that state.

Portland,

Monday, March 16, 1812.

The People's Affairs.

We have almost exclusively, devoted this day's Gazette, to the important subject of the approaching Election of State Officers.

All we ask, of the Electors is, to lay aside their party feelings and prejudices, and examine the conduct of those men who have composed the majority, in the legislature, the year past, and see if it is not abundantly evident that the principal object, has been to aggrandize and give lucrative